

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled) A garment used by a caregiver, said garment comprising:

a garment body including front garment portion and a back garment portion constructed and arranged for traversing front and back areas of the patient from at least a waist line area of the patient;

means formed on said garment body including a plurality of extended garment portions movable into positions to cover at least part of a patient and forming a garment body interconnection between said front garment portion and said back garment portion, said plurality of extended garment portions having lengths sufficient to anchor said front and back garment portions in at least one direction perpendicular to said waist line area of the patient; and

a plurality of handholds on said a garment body for use by a caregiver to manipulate said patient.

2. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 further including ~~+~~ ~~wherein said a plurality of extended garment portions includes~~ short trouser garment leg portions and ~~wherein said garment further comprises~~ attachment devices operable along an inseam of said short trouser garment leg portions for reattachment of garment margins along said inseam.

3. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 further including ~~+~~ ~~wherein said a plurality of extended garment portions includes~~ short trouser garment leg portions having an opening in a crotch area to avoid compression of genital organs of a male patient.

4. (Cancelled) The garment according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of extended garment portions include a right tail portion and a left tail portion, and wherein said garment further includes attachment devices carried by a distal end of said right tail portion and a distal end of said left tail portion.

5. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 †, wherein said garment body is made of a soft, quilted fabric for patients who generally remain in bed.

6. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 † wherein said garment body is made of a non-stretch fabric for a patient.

7. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 further including † ~~herein said plurality of extended garment portions have extended distal ends, said extended distal ends for passage through each of a left loop and a right loop disposed on said front garment portion for passage of each of distal end of said right tail portion and said distal end of said left tail portion, each of said extended distal ends being attached back on itself by fasteners.~~

8. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 further including † ~~wherein said plurality of extended garment portions include~~ a left shoulder strap and a right shoulder strap, and wherein said plurality of handholds include a left shoulder strap handhold on said left shoulder strap and a right shoulder strap handhold on said a right shoulder strap.

9. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 further including an † ~~wherein said front garment portion includes~~ upper garment portion dimensioned and arranged to extend upwardly from said garment waist line area ~~of a patient~~ for

covering a chest portion of said patient, said plurality of handholds including handholds on said upper garment portion.

10. (Cancelled) The garment according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of handholds includes at least one handhold disposed on said front garment portion and wherein said front portion extends downwardly from said waist line area.

11. (Cancelled) The garment according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of handholds includes at least one handhold disposed on said back garment portion and wherein said back portion extends upwardly from said waist line area.

12. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 + wherein said garment body is further defined to consist of a vest defined by openings at an area opposite to said waist line area for accommodating the head and arms of a patient.

13. (Amended) The garment according to claim 21 + wherein said garment body includes side garment portions between said front garment portion and said back garment portion, and wherein plurality of handholds further includes at least two handholds disposed on said side garment portions.

14. (Amended) The garment, according to claim 21 + wherein at least one of said handholds are formed in said garment body and includes a pair of parallel openings defining a strap there between for grasping by a caregiver.

15. (Original) The garment, according to claim 14 further including a reinforcing patch for said strap of at least one of said handholds.

16. (Original) The garment, according to claim 15 further including padding for said reinforcing patch.

17. (Original) The garment according to claim 15 further including studs for reinforcing attachment of said reinforcing patch to said garment body.

16. (Cancelled) The garment according to claim 1 wherein said garment body is further defined to consist of short trousers defined by an inseam for access to leg openings at an area opposite to said waist area to facilitate removal of an undergarment without removal of said trousers for a patient, said garment further including fasteners for reattachment of said trousers to a patient along said inseam.

17. (Cancelled) The garment according to claim 16 wherein said fasteners include hook and loop fasteners.

18. (Amended) A The garment according to claim 21 wherein said ~~used by a caregiver, said garment comprising:~~

~~a garment body including front portion and a back portion at least partially covering a patient; and~~

a plurality of handholds ~~including~~ includes at least one rigid member in said garment body for improving a grip by a caregiver to manipulate a patient.

19. (Original) The garment according to claim 18 wherein said at least one rigid member includes releasable reinforcement having an elongated cylinder interposed in a pocket formed between the layers of fabric.

20. (Original) The garment, according to claim 18 wherein said at least one rigid member includes fabric patches overlapping a strap formed between a pair of openings cut in said garment to define a reinforced strap.

21 (New) A garment used by a caregiver to manipulate a patient, said garment comprising a garment body including a front garment portion and a back garment portion traversing front and back areas, respectively, of said patient between at least a garment waist line area to a right tail portion and a left tail portion forming a garment body interconnection between said front garment portion and said back garment portion passing through the groin area of said patient to anchor said garment body in a direction perpendicular to said waist line area; attachment devices carried by a distal end of said right tail portion and a distal end of said left tail portion to form interconnections with said garment body; and a plurality of handholds on said garment body for use by a caregiver to manipulate said patient.